

The Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention has researched the following programs that affect communities nationwide in order to build a resource database to support our work on truancy programs. Researching and evaluating these different model programs will help to implement an effective truancy program within the City of San Diego.

**Sacramento, CA**  
**California Department of Education**  
**School Attendance Improvement Handbook**  
(<http://www.cde.ca.gov/>)

**Atlanta, GA**  
**Atlanta Bar Association & Fulton County (Atlanta) Juvenile Court, Truancy Intervention Project (TIP)** (<http://www.truancyproject.org/>) Serving some 400 children annually, TIP has the vision of eradicating school failure through ongoing collaborations with the Fulton County Juvenile Court, Atlanta City and Fulton County Public School Systems, The Atlanta and Georgia Bar Foundations, and innumerable community-based outreach programs that work to serve children and families. Touting a 77 percent success rate, we continue to work each day to save one more child from the brink of school failure, and the years of private pain and public expense that they will otherwise face.

**Bakersfield, CA**  
**Kern County, Truancy Reduction Program (TRP)** (<http://www.kernproject180.org>) The Joint City and County Standing Committee to Combat Gang Violence was created by the County of Kern and the City of Bakersfield in the Fall of 2006 in an effort to combat gang violence in the community by developing a plan of attack against the root causes of gang violence.

**Brooklyn, New York**  
**Kings County, Truancy Reduction Alliance to Contact Kids (T.R.A.C.K.) program** (<http://www.kernstavinschool.org>) TRACK (Truancy Reduction & Attendance Coalition of Kern) is a collaborative project focused on increasing school attendance and decreasing juvenile delinquency. The TRACK Truancy Prevention Campaign has formed subcommittees to tackle the three main elements of organizing the Fall truancy prevention campaign: 1) designing a comprehensive a media campaign; 2) organizing a truancy prevention summit or press conference; and 3) focused truancy round-ups.

**Reclaiming Futures** (<http://www.reclaimingfutures.org/>) **Reclaiming Futures** helps young people in trouble with drugs, alcohol, and crime. In 2001, with a \$21 million investment from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 10 founding communities located throughout the United States began reinventing the way police, courts, detention facilities, treatment providers, and the community work together to meet this urgent need.

**Hartford, CT**  
**Center for Children's Advocacy, Truancy Court Prevention Project,**

([http://www.kidscounsel.org/aboutus\\_programs\\_tcpp.htm](http://www.kidscounsel.org/aboutus_programs_tcpp.htm)) The Truancy Court Prevention Project (TCPP) was launched in September 2004 with the purpose of reducing Hartford's high dropout rate. The program currently provides case management services for 7th and 8th grade students at Quirk Middle School and kindergarten, 7th and 8th grade students at Burr School. TCPP is a collaboration between the Center for Children's Advocacy, Hartford Public Schools, the Village for Families and Children, and the Capitol Region Education Council.

#### **Los Angeles County, CA**

##### **Abolish Chronic Truancy (ACT)**

(<http://da.co.la.ca.us/cpys/act.htm>) Chronic truancy and eventual involvement in crime go hand in hand. Studies show that today's chronic truant is tomorrow's criminal. In 1997, the California Youth Authority conducted an intake survey which showed that 76% of those committed to the CYA had missed an average of two years of school, had stopped attending school regularly in the fifth or sixth grade, and were not attending school at the time they were arrested. As a result, the District Attorney's Office – as the chief law enforcement agency in the county – has implemented powerful programs to address the truancy problem and help youth stay in school

#### **Philadelphia, PA**

##### **The Stop Truancy and Recommended Treatment (S.T.A.R.T.) project**

(<http://www.patruancytoolkit.info/index.cfm?pageid=2598>) **ATIPS (Attendance and Truancy Intervention and Prevention Services)** The ATIPS program is designed to address early truancy issues through prevention and intervention services. The program's goal is to improve and increase student attendance, academic achievement and to keep parents informed of current truancy laws and how they may affect their family. The school district partners with 14 non-profit groups (community-based organizations and communities of faith groups) to hire up to 250 Parent Truant Officers who are trained to conduct home visits to parent/guardians of early-stage truant children. These officers make parents aware of district attendance policies, assess the reasons for student absences and provide them with resource information and referral services.

#### **St. Paul, MN**

##### **Ramsey County, Truancy Intervention Program (TIP)**

(<http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us/attorney/SPTIP.asp>) In 1995, the Minnesota Legislature enacted legislation empowering county governing bodies to establish programs to address the growing problem of truancy. In response, the Ramsey County Attorney Susan Gaertner initiated the Truancy Intervention Program (TIP). TIP is an early-intervention program designed to improve the attendance of students 6 to 17 years old. All five school districts in Ramsey County participate in the program.

In 1999, the Ramsey County Attorney's Office expanded TIP to serve children in grades kindergarten through sixth. Called Family TIP (FTIP), this venture focuses on children in grades kindergarten through six. A special emphasis is placed on children whose older siblings have been referred to TIP.